

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Balasubramanian for the thorough examination of the present application. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 6-12, 17 and 19-21 will be pending. Claims 2-5, 13-16 and 18 remain canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled claims in the present application or in a continuation application. Claims 1, 6-10 and 20 have been amended. Support for the amendment to the definition of "C<sub>3-8</sub>heterocycloalkyl-C<sub>0-4</sub>alkyl" of claim 1 is found on page 5, lines 1-4 of the specification as originally filed. Support for the amendment to the definitions of aryl substituents of claim 1 is found in originally filed claim 1. Support for the amendments to claims 6-10 is found in originally filed claims 1 and 6-10. No new matter has been introduced. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.

**I. Rejection of Claims 1, 6-12, 17 and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph.**

Claims 1, 6-12, 17 and 19-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Without acquiescing to the merits and in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1, 6-10 and 20 to obviate the rejections. In view of the amendments, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

**II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

**A. Rejection of Claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 Over Kiyama**

Claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Kiyam et al. (WO 2003/016275; U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0229909, hereinafter "Kiyama"). To expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1, 6-10 and 20. In view of the amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As set forth in MPEP §2131, a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.

Applicants submit that Kiyama does not disclose the compounds of Formula I recited in amended claim 1, thus, Kiyama does not anticipate the claimed invention. Amended claim 1 recites a compound of Formula I, which has two possible core structures, i.e., structure I-A ( $X^1 = -N=$  and  $X^2 = -CR^4=$ ) and structure I-B ( $X^1 = -CR^4=$  and  $X^2 = -N=$ ):



I-A



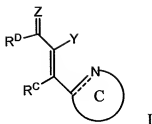
I-B

wherein  $R^2$  is hydrogen, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy and halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy;  $L$  is a bond,  $-O-$  and  $-NR^5-$ , wherein  $R^5$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;  $R^3$  is (i)  $C_{3-8}$ heterocycloalkyl- $C_{0-4}$ alkyl selected from the group consisting of morpholino, morpholino-methyl, morpholino-ethyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, 4-oxo-piperidin-1-yl and 1,4-dioxo-8-aza-spiro[4,5]dec-8-yl, (ii)  $C_{5-10}$ heteroaryl- $C_{0-4}$ alkyl, wherein the heteroaryl is optionally substituted, (iii) substituted  $C_{6-10}$ aryl- $C_{0-4}$ alkyl and (iv)  $-X^3NR^6R^7$ , wherein  $X^3$  is a bond or alkylene and  $R^6$  is hydroxyalkyl or alkenyl;  $R^4$  is  $-H$  or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl.

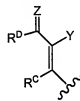
In structure I-A,  $R^1$  is selected from the group consisting of  $-X^3NR^6R^7$ , wherein  $X^3$  is  $C_{1-4}$ alkylene,  $R^6$  is hydrogen and  $R^7$  is selected from the group consisting of  $C_{6-10}$ aryl and  $C_{5-6}$ heteroaryl; wherein the aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 radicals independently selected from the group consisting of halo, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy and halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy.

In structure I-B,  $R^1$  is  $-X^3NR^6R^7$ , wherein  $X^3$  is a bond or  $C_{1-4}$ alkylene,  $R^6$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl and  $R^7$  is selected from the group consisting of  $C_{6-10}$ aryl and  $C_{5-6}$ heteroaryl; wherein the heteroaryl is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 radicals independently selected from the group consisting of halo, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy and halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, and  $R^2$  is hydrogen, amino, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, wherein the aryl moiety of  $R^1$  is substituted with 1 to 3 radicals independently selected from the group consisting of amino, halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, and halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy.

In contrast, Kiyama discloses a generic structure of formula I:



wherein  $R^C$  and  $R^D$  taken together with the neighboring carbon atoms form a ring which may be a condensed ring, Y is hydroxyl, mercapto or amino; and Z is O, S or NH, wherein C ring is N-containing aromatic heterocycle. Therefore, formula I of Kiyama discloses an aromatic



heterocycle (C ring) having a substituent represented by the formula:  
**an oxo (=O), thioxo (=S) or imino (=NH).** In other words, Kiyama discloses that the substituent



has the formula: , wherein the **ring carbon** is substituted by =O, =S or =NH group.

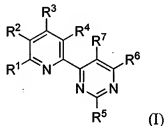
The substituents in structures **I-A** and **I-B** of the compounds of the present invention are  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $-L-R^3$  and  $R^4$ . As recited in amended claim 1,  $R^2$  is hydrogen, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy or halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy. L is a bond, -O- and  $-NR^5-$ , wherein  $R^5$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl.  $R^3$  is optionally substituted (a)  $C_{3-8}$ heterocycloalkyl- $C_{0-4}$ alkyl selected from the group consisting of morpholino, morpholino-methyl, morpholino-ethyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, 4-oxo-piperidin-1-yl and 1,4-dioxo-8-aza-spiro[4,5]dec-8-yl, (b)  $C_{5-10}$ heteroaryl- $C_{0-4}$ alkyl, (c)  $C_{6-10}$ aryl- $C_{0-4}$ alkyl and (d)  $-X^3NR^6R^7$ ;  $R^4$  is -H or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl.  $R^1$  in structure **I-A** is  $-X^3NR^6R^7$  (aryl amino or heteroaryl amino,  $X^3$  = bond; or aryl amino alkyl or heteroaryl amino alkyl,  $X^3$  = alkylene).  $R^1$  in structure **I-B** is  $-X^3NR^6R^7$  (aryl amino or heteroaryl amino,  $X^3$  = bond; or aryl amino alkyl or heteroaryl amino alkyl,  $X^3$  = alkylene). None of the substituents  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $-L-R^3$  and  $R^4$  in structures **I-A** and **I-B** recite a heterocycle substituent, wherein the **ring carbon** is substituted by =O, =S or =NH group as required in Kiyama. Hence,

Kiyama fails to teach the compounds of formula I recited in amended claim 1, thus, amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Kiyama. Since claims 6-8, 11 and 17 are dependent from claim 1 and therefore incorporate all the limitations of claim 1, claims 6-8, 11 and 17 are not anticipated by Kiyama. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this anticipation rejection of claims 1, 6-8 and 17 over Kiyama be withdrawn.

**B. Rejection of Claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 Over Hoffmann**

Claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Hoffmann et al. (DE 4031798, hereinafter "Hoffmann"). To expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1, 6-10 and 20. In view of the amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants submit that Hoffmann does not disclose the compounds of amended claim 1, thus, it does not anticipate the claimed invention. Hoffmann discloses compounds having formula (I):



wherein:

**R<sup>1</sup>** and **R<sup>3</sup>** are each independently -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, phenyl, phenoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, phenylmercapto-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, wherein the phenyl moiety of the last four groups is optionally substituted with from one to three substituents selected from halogen, -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkoxy, or **R<sup>1</sup>** and **R<sup>3</sup>** can be halogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy;

**R<sup>2</sup>** and **R<sup>4</sup>** are each independently -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, halogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy; **R<sup>5</sup>** is -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)acycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-

C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, benzyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, where the phenyl moiety of the last three groups is optionally substituted with from one to three substituents selected from halogen, -NO<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkoxy, or R<sup>5</sup> can be (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl;

R<sup>6</sup> is -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, wherein the cycloalkyl moiety of the last two groups is optionally substituted with from one to three (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, or R<sup>6</sup> can be (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, halogen, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy or phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, wherein the phenyl moiety of the last four groups is optionally substituted with from one to three substituents selected from halogen, -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkoxy, or R<sup>6</sup> can be (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylsulfonyl, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, wherein:

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are each independently -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, formyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, where the phenyl moiety of the last two groups is optionally substituted with from one to three substituents selected from halogen, -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy; or R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> together with the N to which they are attached form an unsubst. or substituted up to four 5-7 membered saturated or unsaturated heterocycle with 1-3 the same or different hetero atoms;

R<sup>7</sup> is -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, halogen.

Applicants assert that Hoffmann does not disclose compounds having structure I-A in amended claim 1. The substituent R<sup>5</sup> in formula (I) of Hoffmann corresponds to the substituent R<sup>1</sup> in structure I-A of the present invention. As recited in amended claim 1, R<sup>1</sup> in structure I-A is -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup> (arylamino or heteroarylamino, X<sup>3</sup> = bond; or arylaminoalkyl or heteroarylaminoalkyl, X<sup>3</sup> = alkylene). As discussed above, R<sup>5</sup> in formula (I) of Hoffmann is -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)acycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, benzyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, where the phenyl moiety of the last three groups is optionally substituted with from one to three substituents selected from halogen, -NO<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-

C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkoxy, or R<sup>5</sup> can be (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkynyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl. None of the R<sup>5</sup> substituents in formula (I) of Hoffmann can be -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup> as recited for substituent R<sup>1</sup> in structure I-A of amended claim 1. Therefore, Hoffmann fails to teach the compounds having structure I-A as recited in amended claim 1.

Applicants further assert that Hoffmann does not teach compounds having



structure I-B as recited in amended claim 1. The substituents R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> in formula (I) of Hoffmann correspond to the substituents R<sup>1</sup> and -L-R<sup>3</sup> in structure I-B of the present invention. As recited in amended claim 1, R<sup>1</sup> is -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup> (arylamino or heteroarylamino, X<sup>3</sup> = bond; or arylaminoalkyl or heteroarylaminoalkyl, X<sup>3</sup> = alkylene), wherein the heteroaryl is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 radicals independently selected from the group consisting of halo, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy and halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, wherein *the aryl moiety of R<sup>1</sup> is substituted* with 1 to 3 radicals independently selected from the group consisting of *amino, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl and halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy*.



In contrast, the substituent in Formula (I) of Hoffmann represents a substituted or unsubstituted 2-pyridyl directly attached to the pyrimidine ring. Hoffmann does



not disclose that the substituent can be heteroarylamino, heteroarylaminoalkyl, arylamino or arylaminoalkyl as recited for R<sup>1</sup> in structure I-B. As discussed above, R<sup>6</sup> in formula (I) of Hoffmann can be -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, wherein the cycloalkyl moiety of the last two groups is optionally substituted with from one to three (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, or R<sup>6</sup> can be (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, halogen, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyl,

phenyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy or phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, wherein the phenyl moiety of the last four groups is optionally substituted with from one to three substituents selected from halogen, -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)haloalkoxy, or R<sup>6</sup> can be (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyloxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylsulfonyl, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, wherein R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are each independently -H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkinyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, formyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, where the phenyl moiety of the last two groups is optionally substituted with from one to three substituents selected from halogen, -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub>, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkoxy; or R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> together with the N to which they are attached form an unsubst. or substituted up to four 5-7 membered saturated or unsaturated heterocycle with 1-3 the same or different hetero atoms. However, none of the Markush members of R<sup>6</sup> in Hoffmann can be heteroarylamino, heteroarylaminomethyl, arylamino or arylaminomethyl, wherein *the aryl moiety is substituted* with 1 to 3 radicals independently selected from the group consisting of *amino, halo-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-alkyl and halo-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-alkoxy*, the substituents as recited for the aryl moiety of R<sup>1</sup> in



structure I-B. Therefore, neither R<sup>1</sup> nor R<sup>6</sup> in Formula I of Hoffmann discloses (or allows for) the R<sup>1</sup> substituent of structure I-B. Hence, Hoffman fails to teach the compounds of structure I-B as recited in claim 1. Thus, Hoffmann discloses neither the compounds of structure I-A, nor the compounds of structure I-B as recited in amended claim 1. As a result, amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Hoffmann. Since claims 6-8, 11 and 17 are dependent from claim 1 and therefore incorporate all the limitations of claim 1, claims 6-8, 11 and 17 are not anticipated by Hoffmann. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this anticipation rejection of claims 1, 6-8 and 17 over Hoffmann be withdrawn.

### C. Rejection of Claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 Over Yamanaka

Claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Yamanaka et al. (*Chem. Pharm. Bull.* 28(5), 1526-1533, 1980, hereinafter

"Yamanaka"). To expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1, 6-10 and 20. In view of the amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants submit that Yamanaka does not teach the compounds of the claimed invention. Yamanaka discloses the synthesis of a number of pyrimidine derivatives including the N-oxide derivatives. Specifically, Yamanaka discloses the following compounds (I, III, IVa, IVb, VII, VIII, XIII, XIV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXIVa, XXIVb, XXIIIa, XXIIIb and XXV) as collectively represented by formula (IY):



I: Rx = CH<sub>3</sub>, Ry = CH<sub>3</sub>, Rz = H

III: Rx = Ry = -CH=CHPh, Rz = H

IVa: Rx = CH<sub>3</sub>, Ry = Ph, Rz = H

IVb: Rx = OEt, Ry = CH<sub>3</sub>, Rz = H

VII: Rx = Ph, Ry = -CH=CHPh, Rz = H

VIII: Rx = Ph, Ry = -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Ph, Rz = H

XIII: Rx = Ph, Ry = -CH=CHPh, Rz = CH<sub>3</sub>

XIV: Rx = Ph, Ry = I, Rz = CH<sub>3</sub>

XVI: Rx = Ry = -CH=CHPh, Rz = CH<sub>3</sub>

XVII: Rx = Ry = Rz = -CH=CHPh

XVIII: Rx = Ry = -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Ph, Rz = CH<sub>3</sub>

XIX: Rx = Ry = I, Rz = CH<sub>3</sub>

XX: Rx = Ry = -CCPh, Rz = CH<sub>3</sub>

XXIVa,b: Rx = Ph or OEt, Ry = piperidinyl-ethyl, Rz = H

XXV: Rx = Ph, Ry = piperidinyl-propen-2yl, Rz = H

XXIIIa,b: Rx = Ph or OEt, Ry = 1,3-bis(piperidinyl-2-propyl), Rz = H

Applicants submit that Yamanaka does not teach compounds having structure I-A. The substituent Rz in formula IY of Yamanaka corresponds to the substituent R<sup>1</sup> in structure I-A of amended claim 1. Rz in formula I of Yamanaka is H or CH<sub>3</sub>. As recited in amended claim 1, R<sup>1</sup> in structure I-A is -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup> (arylamino or heteroarylamino, X<sup>3</sup> = bond; or arylaminoalkyl or heteroarylaminoalkyl, X<sup>3</sup> = alkylene). Amended claim 1 does not recite that R<sup>1</sup> in structure I-A is hydrogen or CH<sub>3</sub> as disclosed in Yamanaka. Therefore, Yamanaka fails to teach the compounds of structure I-A as recited in amended claim 1.

Applicants further submit that Yamanaka does not teach the compounds having structure I-B as recited in amended claim 1. The substituents Rx and Ry correspond to the

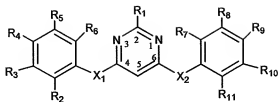


substituents  $R^1$  and  $-L-R^3$  in structure **I-B** of the present invention. Applicants submit that Yamanaka does not teach the  $R^1$  substituent in structure **I-B**. As shown above,  $R_x$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $-OEt$ ,  $Ph$ ,  $-CH=CHPh$ ,  $-CH_2CH_2Ph$ ,  $-CCPh$  or  $I$ ; and  $R_y$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $Ph$ ,  $-CH=CHPh$ ,  $-CH_2CH_2Ph$ ,  $-CCPh$ ,  $I$ , piperidinyl-ethyl, 1,3-bis(piperidinyl-2-propyl or piperidinyl-propen-2yl. As recited in amended claim 1,  $R^1$  is  $-X^3NR^6R^7$  (arylamino or heteroarylamino,  $X^3$  = bond; or arylaminoalkyl or heteroarylaminoalkyl,  $X^3$  = alkylene), wherein the heteroaryl is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 radicals independently selected from the group consisting of halo, amino,  $C_{1-4}alkyl$ , halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}alkyl$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkoxy$  and halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}alkoxy$ , wherein *the aryl moiety of  $R^1$  is substituted* with 1 to 3 radicals independently selected from the group consisting of *amino, halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}alkyl$  and halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}alkoxy$* . Thus,  $R^1$  in structure **I-B** does not recite  $CH_3$ ,  $-OEt$ ,  $Ph$ ,  $-CH=CHPh$ ,  $-CH_2CH_2Ph$ ,  $-CCPh$ ,  $I$ , piperidinyl-ethyl, 1,3-bis(piperidinyl-2-propyl or piperidinyl-propen-2yl substituents as disclosed for  $R_x$  and  $R_y$  in the compounds of Yamanaka. Hence, Yamanaka fails to teach the compounds of structure **I-B** as recited in amended claim 1. Consequently, Yamanaka discloses neither the compounds of structure **I-A**, nor the compounds of structure **I-B** as recited in amended claim 1. As such, Yamanaka does not teach the compounds of Formula I as recited in amended claim 1, thus, claim 1 is not anticipated by Yamanaka. Since claims 6-8 and 11 are dependent from claim 1 and therefore incorporate all the limitations of claim 1, claims 6-8 and 11 are not anticipated by Yamanaka. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this anticipation rejection of claims 1, 6-8 and 11 over Yamanaka be withdrawn.

#### **D. Rejection of Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 Over Cuccia**

Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Cuccia *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,281,219, hereinafter "Cuccia"). To expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1, 6-10 and 20. In view of the amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants submit that Cuccia does not teach each and every element of the claimed invention and, thus, Cuccia does not anticipate the claimed invention. Cuccia teaches pyrimidine derivatives having the formula:



wherein:  $R_1$  is hydrogen, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylthio, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphinyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphonyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphonyl or NR<sub>12</sub>R<sub>13</sub>; R<sub>12</sub> and R<sub>13</sub> are each independently hydrogen, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, or halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl;  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independently selected from the group consisting of NR<sub>14</sub>, NR<sub>15</sub>, O, CH<sub>2</sub>, CR<sub>18</sub>R<sub>19</sub>, CO and C=NOR<sub>20</sub>; R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, and R<sub>11</sub> are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkoxy, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkoxy(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkoxy(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylthio, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphinyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphanyl, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphonyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphonyl, amino, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylhaloalkyl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)amino, dihalo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkoxy-carbonyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, halo(C<sub>2-6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>2-6</sub>)alkynyl, halo(C<sub>2-6</sub>)alkynyl; and R<sub>10</sub> is halogen, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, halo(C<sub>2-6</sub>)alkenyl or halo(C<sub>2-6</sub>)alkynyl. The substituents at the 4 and 6 positions are represented by  $X_1$ -aryl and  $X_2$ -aryl, where aryl represents phenyl group having R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>11</sub> substituents.

Applicants assert that Cuccia does not teach a compound having core structure **I-A**. The substituent R<sup>1</sup> on the pyrimidine ring in Cuccia occupies the position that corresponds to R<sup>1</sup> in **I-A**. Cuccia discloses that R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylthio, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylthio, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphinyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphonyl, halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylsulphonyl or NR<sub>12</sub>R<sub>13</sub>; R<sub>12</sub> and R<sub>13</sub> are each independently hydrogen, (C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, or halo(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl. Clearly, Cuccia does not teach that the substituent R<sup>1</sup> can be -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup> (aryl amino or heteroaryl amino, X<sup>3</sup> = bond; or aryl amino alkyl or heteroaryl amino alkyl, X<sup>3</sup> = alkylene) as recited for R<sup>1</sup> in structure **I-A**. Therefore, a compound having structure **I-A** is not anticipated by Cuccia.

Applicants further assert that Cuccia does not teach a compound having core structure **I-B**. Substituents  $X_1$ -aryl and  $X_2$ -aryl on the pyrimidine ring in Cuccia occupy the positions that correspond to R<sup>1</sup> and L-R<sup>3</sup> in structure **I-B**. Cuccia teaches  $X_1$ -aryl and  $X_2$ -aryl

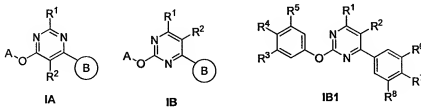
having substituents R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>11</sub>, but *does not* teach that substituents R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>11</sub> are hydroxy-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, phenyl, C<sub>3-8</sub>heterocycloalkyl, -X<sup>3</sup>C(O)NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>C(O)NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>C(O)R<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>S(O)NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>S(O)<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>S(O)<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>SNR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>ONR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>C(O)R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>C(O)R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>S(O)<sub>2</sub>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>S(O)<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>S(O)<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>C(O)R<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>C(O)NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>C(O)NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, =NOR<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>OR<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-4</sub>NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>C(O)NR<sup>8</sup>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-4</sub>NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>C(O)NR<sup>8</sup>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-4</sub>R<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>C(O)NR<sup>8</sup>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-4</sub>OR<sup>9</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-4</sub>NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>8</sup>, -X<sup>3</sup>C(O)NR<sup>8</sup>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-4</sub>OR<sup>8</sup> and X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>8</sup>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-4</sub>R<sup>9</sup>, the substituents that are recited for the *aryl portion of the R<sup>3</sup> group* in amended claim 1. Therefore, a compound of structure **I-B** is not anticipated by Cuccia.

Since core structures **I-A** or **I-B** of the compounds of Formula I are not disclosed by Cuccia, claim 1 is not anticipated by Cuccia. Since claims 6, 9, 10 and 17 are dependent from claim 1 and, therefore, incorporate all the limitations of claim 1, claims 6, 9, 10 and 17 are not anticipated by Cuccia. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 over Cuccia under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

#### E. Rejection of Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 Over Wood

Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Wood *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,306,866, hereinafter "Wood"). To expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1, 6-10 and 20. In view of the amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.


Applicants assert that Wood does not teach each and every element of the invention, thus Wood does not anticipate the claimed invention. Wood teaches pyrimidine derivatives having the formulae:





wherein: A represents a phenyl group being substituted by one or more of the same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, alkyl, alkoxy, cyano, nitro, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, alkylthio, haloalkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl and SF<sub>5</sub> groups. B represents a phenyl group being substituted by one or more of the same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, alkyl, alkoxy, cyano, nitro, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, alkylthio, haloalkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl and SF<sub>5</sub> groups. R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> each independently represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy group, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl or alkylsulphonyl group, an amino, alkylamino or dialkylamino group or a cyano, nitro, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkylthio or SF<sub>5</sub> group,

Applicants assert that a compound having core structure **I-A** is not anticipated by a compound of formula **IA** in Wood. The substituent R<sup>1</sup> on the pyrimidine ring in **IA** of Wood corresponds to R<sup>1</sup> in structure **I-A** of amended claim 1. The R<sup>1</sup> in formula **IA** of Wood is a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy group, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl or alkylsulphonyl group, an amino, alkylamino or dialkylamino group or a cyano, nitro, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkylthio or SF<sub>5</sub> group. Clearly, formula **IA** does not teach (or allow for) the substituent R<sup>1</sup> to be -X<sup>3</sup>NR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup> (aryl amino or heteroaryl amino, X<sup>3</sup> = bond; or aryl amino alkyl or heteroaryl amino alkyl, X<sup>3</sup> = alkylene) as recited for R<sup>1</sup> in structure **I-A**. Therefore, a compound of structure **I-A** is not anticipated by a compound of the formula **IA** in Wood.

Applicants further assert that the core structure **I-A** is not anticipated by a


compound of formula **IB** or **IB1** of Wood. The substituent A-O- or  on the pyrimidine ring in structure **IB** or **IB1** of Wood occupies the positions that correspond to R<sup>1</sup> in


structure **I-A**. The substituents A-O- and  in formulas **IB** and **IB1** of Wood are substituted or unsubstituted phenoxy. Formula **IB** or **IB1** in Wood does not teach (or allow for)


substituent A-O- or  to be  $-X^3NR^6R^7$  (aryl amino or heteroaryl amino,  $X^3$  = bond; or arylaminoalkyl or heteroaryl aminoalkyl,  $X^3$  = alkylene) as recited for  $R^1$  in structure I-A. Thus, compounds having structure I-A are not anticipated by a compound of the formula IB or IB1 in Wood.

Applicants submit that the compounds of core structure I-B are not anticipated by a compound of formula IA in Wood. Substituents A-O and B on the pyrimidine ring in formula IA occupy the positions that correspond to  $R^1$  and  $L-R^3$  in structure I-B. Wood teaches A-O and B to be substituted phenoxy or phenyl groups, wherein the substituents on the phenyl ring are halogen atoms, alkyl, alkoxy, cyano, nitro, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, alkylthio, haloalkylthio, alkylsulphanyl, alkylsulphonyl and  $SF_5$  groups, but **does not** teach the substituent  $-X^3NR^6R^7$  (aryl amino or heteroaryl amino,  $X^3$  = bond; or arylaminoalkyl or heteroaryl aminoalkyl,  $X^3$  = alkylene) as recited for  $R^1$  in structure I-B. Therefore, compounds of the structure I-B are not anticipated by a compound of formula I-A in Wood.

Applicants further submit that the core structure I-B is not anticipated by a

compound of formula IB or IB1 in Wood. The substituent A-O- or  on the pyrimidine ring in structure IB or IB1 of Wood occupies the position that corresponds to  $R^2$  in

structure I-B. The substituents A-O- and  in formulas IB and IB1 of Wood are substituted or unsubstituted phenoxy. Formula IB or IB1 in Wood does not teach (or allow for)

substituent A-O- or  to be hydrogen, amino, alkoxy or haloalkoxy as recited for  $R^2$

in structure **I-B**. Thus, compounds of structure **I-B** are not anticipated by a compound of the formula **IB** or **IB1** in Wood.

Again, since core structures **I-A** or **I-B** of the compounds of Formula I are not disclosed by Wood, amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Wood. As claims 6, 9, 10 and 17 are dependent from claim 1 and, therefore, incorporate all the limitations of claim 1, claims 6, 9, 10 and 17 are not anticipated by Wood. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 6, 9 10 and 17 over Wood under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

### **III. Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

#### **A. Rejection of claims 1, 6-11 and 17 over Kiyama**

Claims 1, 6-11 and 17 have been rejected as allegedly being obvious over Kiyama. To the extent that the rejection is applicable to the amended set of claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As discussed in section IIA above, amended claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 are novel over the compounds of Kiyama. The compounds of the present invention are *structurally different* from those disclosed in Kiyama and none of the compounds of Kiyama are embraced in the presently claimed compounds of Formula I of amended claim 1. In addition, there are no teachings or suggestions in Kiyama to modify the compounds of Kiyama to arrive at the compounds of the presently claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kiyama be withdrawn.

#### **B. Rejection of Claims 1, 6-11 and 17 Over Hoffmann**

Claims 1, 6-11 and 17 have been rejected as allegedly being obvious over Hoffmann. To the extent that the rejection is applicable to the amended set of claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As discussed in section IIB above, amended claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 are novel over the compounds of Hoffmann. The compounds of the present invention are *structurally different* from those disclosed in Hoffmann and none of the compounds of Hoffmann are embraced in the presently claimed compounds of Formula I of amended claim 1. In addition, there are no teachings or suggestions in Hoffmann to modify the compounds of Hoffmann to

arrive at the compounds of the presently claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Hoffmann be withdrawn.

**C. Rejection of Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 Over Cuccia**

Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 have been rejected as allegedly being obvious over Cuccia. To the extent that the rejection is applicable to the amended set of claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As discussed in section II D above, amended claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 are novel over the compounds of Cuccia. The compounds of the present invention are *structurally different* from those disclosed in Cuccia and none of the compounds of Cuccia are embraced in the presently claimed compounds of Formula I of amended claim 1. In addition, there are no teachings or suggestions in Cuccia to modify the compounds of Cuccia to arrive at the compounds of the presently claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Cuccia be withdrawn.

**D. Rejection of Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 Over Wood**

Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 have been rejected as allegedly being obvious over Wood. To the extent that the rejection is applicable to the amended set of claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

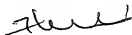
As discussed in section IIE above, amended claims 1, 6-8, 11 and 17 are novel over the compounds of Wood. The compounds of the present invention are *structurally different* from those disclosed in Wood and none of the compounds of Wood are embraced in the presently claimed compounds of Formula I of amended claim 1. In addition, there are no teachings or suggestions in Wood to modify the compounds of Wood to arrive at the compounds of the presently claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Wood be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



Zhe Wu  
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